

What are you going to do with a Senator who says, regardless of what may happen two years hence: "Vote against every candidate who wants to break down the Initiative and Referendum and the Primary Law, even if he's your brother or my brother." That is, if you were an Oregon voter, with an opportunity to vote for or against Bourne, how would you vote? Don't hurry; there are two years to think about it.

W. G. EGGLESTON.

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LAND VALUE TAXATION IN SPAIN.

Chicago, October 4.

I am indebted to an energetic single tax friend, Mr. Antonio Albendin, of San Fernando, Spain, for a copy of the radical Spanish daily, "El Herald de Madrid," of Sept. 7, which reports a bill presented to the city council of Madrid by Mr. Quejido, a Socialist member, in which it is proposed that all revenue be raised by a graduated tax on land values, the scale to run from one per cent of the value of land worth 60 cents per square foot, up to three per cent on land worth \$5.00 per square foot. Revaluation is required every five years, to be made by the landlord, under oath, and value to be based on what the owner would ask if the city needed the land for public purposes. If the owner persists in undervaluation the city is to raise it to correspond to that of adjacent land.

In support of his measure, Mr. Quejido argues that its application would be the greatest progressive step ever taken by the city of Madrid. He figures that the city would derive a revenue of over \$4,400,000, on an average tax rate of 2 per cent; and by taking the burdens of taxation from industry and increasing opportunity for production, it would enable the city to experience an era of prosperity beyond all precedent.

C. L. LOGAN.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

REPUBLICS IN ANCIENT INDIA.

Hartford, Conn.

It is customary to speak of Asia as a land of despotism and absolute monarchies, where political freedom and popular self rule have never been known, and where the genius and habits of the people have nothing in common with self-government. These ideas are put forth as a justification of British rule in India. We are told that the Indian people do not want to govern themselves, and could not if they tried to. But the facts seem to teach the opposite.

1. As everybody with any knowledge of affairs in the Orient is aware, there has arisen a powerful popular movement in India which is stirring the land from one end to the other, called the New Nationalist Movement. Its object is constitutional government and home rule. Its leaders point to Canada, Australia and South Africa, and say: "Those peoples have home rule. We desire the same. It is our right. We can govern ourselves better than any

foreign nation, ignorant of our civilization, our customs and our needs, can govern us. Give us parliamentary institutions and home rule."

2. In the past, India has been able to govern herself. Great and civilized nations with highly organized governments existed in India while Europe was yet barbarian; and since Europe emerged from barbarism some of the most important kingdoms and empires of the world and some of the greatest and most enlightened rulers have appeared in India.

3. Nor is India's ability to rule herself confined to the past. This is seen by the fact that the very best governments in India today, those which are doing most to promote education and the welfare of the people, and which are most in line with the progressive governments of Europe and America, are not carried on by the British there, but are those which we find in such self-ruling Native States as Baroda and Mysore.

4. Perhaps no people in the world have had larger training in what is fundamental in self-rule, namely, local self-government, than the people of India. This is seen in their remarkable "village communities," which have come down from very early times and which are virtual little republics or democracies. It is often pointed out that the most important preparation which our own New England had for republican institutions was that which it obtained through its town governments and town meetings, those little democratic institutions which for generations before the establishment of our national government had been teaching the people to govern themselves. Much the same kind of education in self-government which came to New England through its town meetings, India has been receiving for two or three thousand years through her village communities. This is the reason why the people of India are so law-abiding and so easy to govern. Thus instead of the Indian peoples being fundamentally unfit for anything but despotism, they are in some respects among the best prepared for self-rule of any of the peoples of the world.

5. But what I want particularly to call attention to, is the fact that India was one of the first lands in the world, if not the very first, to develop distinct and full republics. If any one wishes to find a concise statement of the grounds for this claim I refer him to an article in the "Modern Review" of Calcutta, India, for August, 1910, written by Professor Ramananda Chatterjee, editor of the Review. The article is entitled "Republics in Ancient India." Space does not permit me to quote from it in detail; but I will cite a single paragraph which fairly well sums up the conclusions reached:

"Republics existed in India at least as early as the days of Buddha and Mahavira (sixth century before Christ) and as late as Samudra Gupta (fourth century after Christ). They were situated in the extensive tract of country stretching from the Punjab in the west to Behar in the east, and from Nepal in the north to the southern borders of the Central Provinces. So the republican form of government in ancient India had a duration of at least one thousand years. We know of no other country, ancient

or modern, where democracy has prevailed for a longer period."

Commenting on this article of Professor Chatterjee, "The Empire," an Anglo-Indian daily of Calcutta, says (in a leader in its issue of August 13th):

"One of the commonest sayings about India, as about other Oriental countries, is, that it does not want self-government. What the Oriental wants, we are told, is a Master; and when we ask why he should want a Master any more than do Western peoples, the only answer is that it is the nature of the beast, and there is an end of it. This line of argument is much less frequently heard nowadays than it used to be, but there are probably many peoples who would be surprised to learn that between two and three thousand years ago the form of government in India was as a general rule either democratic or oligarchic. Republics seem to have been the rule rather than the exception. The facts cited by the "Modern Review" upset the complaisant theories about absolute despotism which is so often alleged to be the ideal government for Oriental peoples. It hardly required this eye-opener to down the old notions about the inherent inability of certain races to govern themselves; but Professor Chatterjee has done well to remind us of these hard facts, which are testified to by the most renowned Orientalists in the world."

Surely the facts and considerations referred to above may well give pause to Englishmen or Americans or others who are accustomed to speak glibly of Oriental peoples, including the people of India, as requiring despotic governments, and as unfit for self-rule or representative institutions.

J. T. SUNDERLAND.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, October 11, 1910.

Republican Portugal.

The little ancient Kingdom of Portugal (p. 829), of glorious history, southwestern neighbor of Spain, has been suffering from increasing corruption in the management of its affairs and an intolerable public debt. Dissatisfaction and general unrest brought about the assassination of the late King Carlos I, and his eldest son, Luis Philip, in 1908 (vol. x, pp. 1068, 1091). The King's younger son, Manuel, a youth of eighteen years, succeeded to the throne, and a compromise situation was patched up.

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Rumors of an impending revolution in Portugal

have been current in Europe for many months. Dr. Alfonso Costa, one of the Republican leaders, is credited with having announced at the end of August: "We have given King Manuel notice to quit. The coming revolution will be a kindly affair. We shall kill the least possible number of persons." Actual insurrection was probably hastened by the murder by a military officer on the 3rd of Professor Bombarda, a valued Republican and anti-clerical leader. On the morning of the 4th such of the troops in the capital city of Lisbon as were known by the Republican leaders to be in sympathy with the Republican movement, were got into commanding positions, in perfect order, and a struggle with the troops loyal to the King began. Two battleships in the harbor sided with the Republicans, and aided by shelling the royal palace. The loyal troops, few in number, after fighting through the streets during a day and night, gradually surrendered and joined forces with the Republicans. The killed on both sides are officially estimated at from one hundred to one hundred and fifty. King Manuel and his mother, Queen Amelie, and his grandmother, the aged Queen Maria Pia, with her son, the Duke of Oporto, fled—first to the palace of Cintra, outside of Lisbon, and then to a yacht which carried them to British protection at Gibraltar.

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By the 5th Lisbon was entirely in the hands of the Republicans, and the inhabitants were parading the streets singing the Portuguese Marseillaise. The Republican leaders insisted upon the maintenance of perfect order, and upon the inviolability of life and private and public property. A provisional government was formed with Theophile Braga as provisional President. Mr. Braga has been professor of literature at the college at Lisbon. The chief points in the Government's program are reported to be the following:

1. The development of public instruction and national defenses on land and sea.
2. Administrative decentralization.
3. Colonial autonomy.
4. To guarantee fundamental liberties by judicial power.
5. Expulsion of monks and nuns.
6. Obligatory civil registration.
7. Lay instruction.
8. Separation of church and state.
9. The strengthening of the credit and finances of the country.

By the 7th Lisbon had fully recovered herself. The Republican flag of red and green was fluttering on nearly every building and from every vehicle; the streets were thronged with promenaders, including a good sprinkling of tourists with guide-books in hand; shops and offices had been reopened and business generally had been resumed. The provisional Government issued a decree of exile against the royal family and claimed to have re-